

SG39 Meeting  
November 20-21, 2017

# Update on Continuous Energy Cross Section Adjustment.

UC Berkeley / INL collaboration

- Brief recall of the continuous-energy adjustment methodology
- eXtended Generalized Perturbation Theory (xGPT) in Serpent
- Related Monte Carlo methods

# Continuous-energy first order uncertainty propagation

$$\text{Var} [R] = \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} S_{\Sigma}^R (E) \cdot \text{COV} [\Sigma(E) , \Sigma(E')] \cdot S_{\Sigma}^R (E') dE dE' \quad (1)$$

$\text{COV} [\Sigma(E) , \Sigma(E')]$  is the continuous-energy covariance matrix

$S_{\Sigma}^R (E)$  is the sensitivity density function for the generic response  $R$

Multi-group discretization is usually introduced here



# Multi-group discretization of the covariance matrix

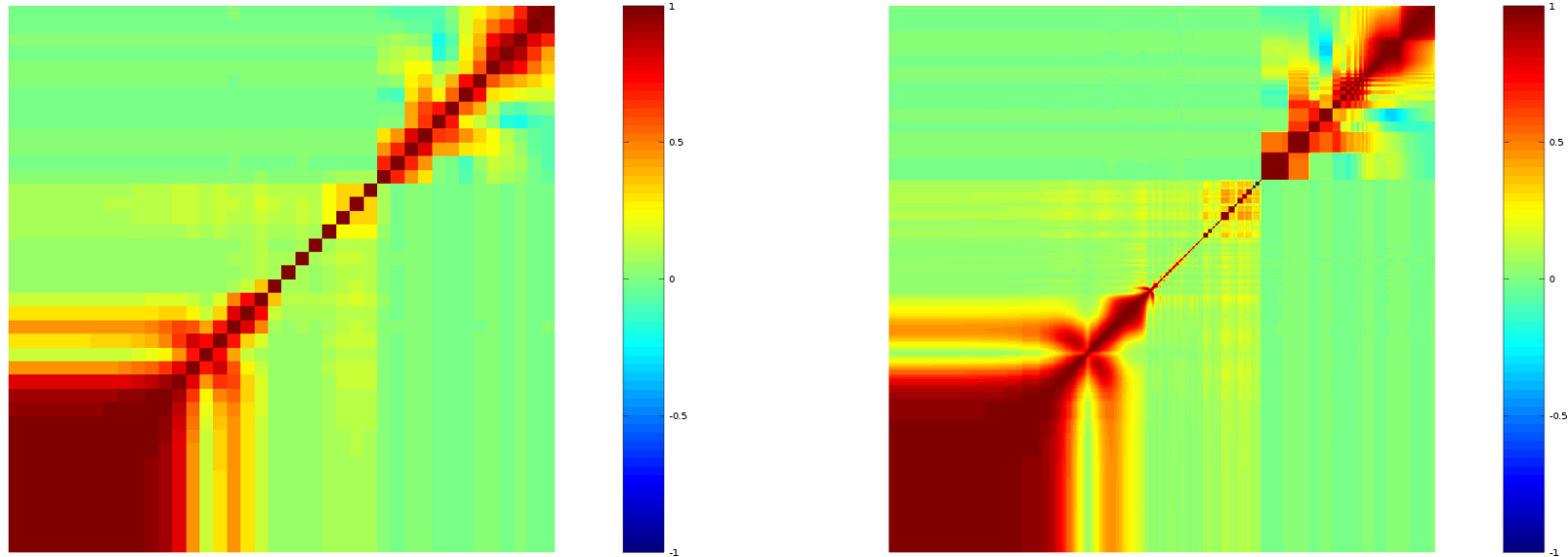


Figure: Comparison between the multi-group (left) and continuous (right)  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  capture cross correlation matrices adopted in the adjustment process.

# Multi-group discretization of the covariance matrix

## $^{239}\text{Pu}$ capture uncert.: "continuous-energy" vs multi-group

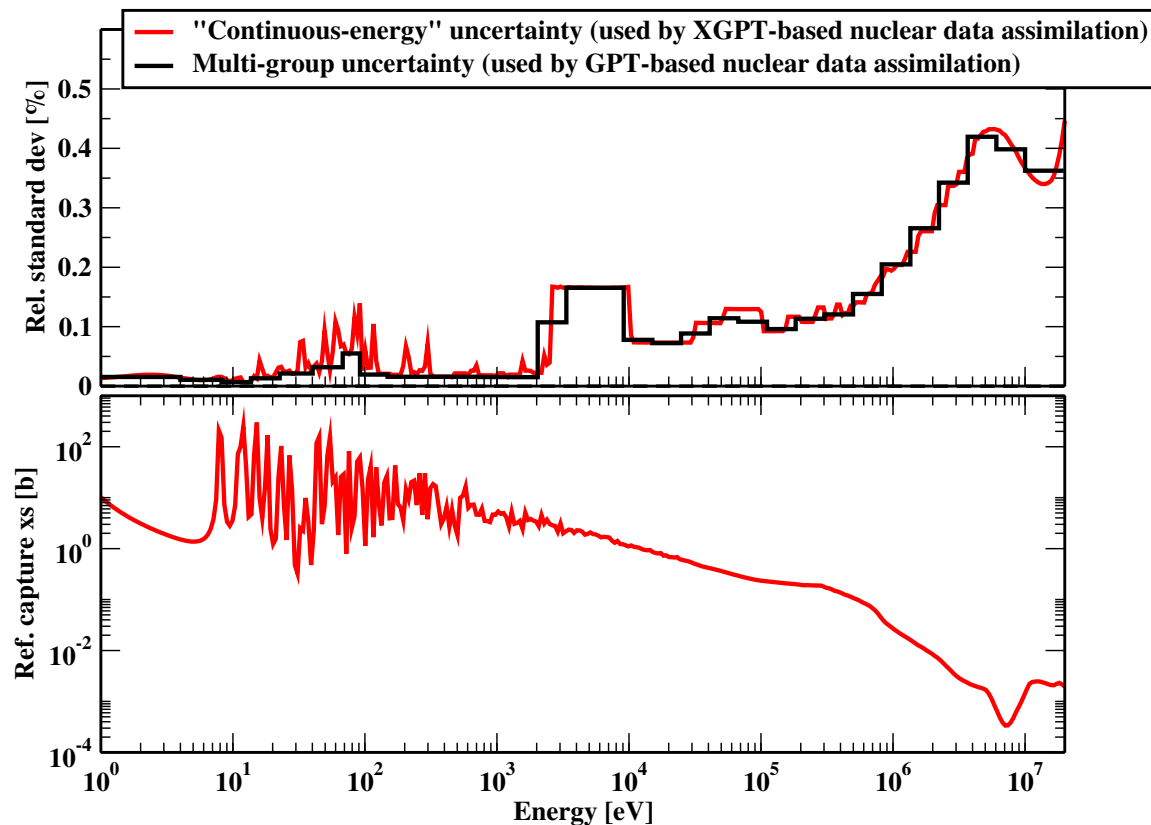


Figure: Comparison between  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  capture cross section relative uncertainty adopted as input by the "continuous" and multi-group approaches.

# Eigendecomposition of the covariance matrix

$$COV [\Sigma(E) , \Sigma(E')] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} U_j(E) \cdot V_j \cdot U_j(E') \quad (2)$$

$V_j$  are the eigenvalues of the continuous energy covariance matrix corresponding to the eigenfunctions  $U_j(E)$



# Continuous-energy uncertainty propagation (revisited)

$$\text{Var} [R] = \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} S_{\Sigma}^R (E) \cdot \text{COV} [\Sigma(E), \Sigma(E')] \cdot S_{\Sigma}^R (E') dE dE' \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Var} [R] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} V_j \cdot \left( \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} U_j (E) \cdot S_{\Sigma}^R (E) dE \right)^2 \quad (3)$$

# Continuous-energy uncertainty propagation (revisited)

$$\text{Var} [R] = \int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} \int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} S_{\Sigma}^R (E) \cdot \text{COV} [\Sigma(E), \Sigma(E')] \cdot S_{\Sigma}^R (E') dE dE' \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Var} [R] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} V_j \cdot \left( S_{U_j}^R \right)^2 \simeq \sum_{j=1}^n V_j \cdot \left( S_{U_j}^R \right)^2 \quad (3)$$



# Continuous energy cross section adjustment

Adjustment parameters  $\Delta_U = [\Delta_{U_1}, \Delta_{U_2} \cdots \Delta_{U_n}]^T$ :

$$\Delta_U = \mathbf{M} \mathbf{G}^T [\mathbf{G} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{G}^T + \mathbf{V}_e + \mathbf{V}_m]^{-1} \mathbf{D}_R \quad (4)$$

- $\mathbf{M}$  is the prior covariance of the continuous functions  
*prior*  $\mathbf{COV}[\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{U}]$
- $\mathbf{V}_e$  and  $\mathbf{V}_m$ : matrices of the experimental and modeling errors
- $\mathbf{D}_R$  contains the relative differences between the calculated and measured experiments.
- $\mathbf{G}$  is the matrix of the sensitivities:  $\mathbf{G} = [\mathbf{S}_U^{R_1} \mathbf{S}_U^{R_2} \cdots \mathbf{S}_U^{R_N}]^T$



# Continuous energy cross section adjustment

$$\Delta_U = \mathbf{M} \mathbf{G}^T [\mathbf{G} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{G}^T + \mathbf{V}_e + \mathbf{V}_m]^{-1} \mathbf{D}_R \quad (4)$$

$$\text{adjusted } \Sigma(E) \simeq \text{prior } \Sigma(E) \cdot \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^n \Delta_{U_j} \cdot U_j(E) \right) \quad (5)$$



# Continuous vs. multi-group: uncertainty reduction

Jezebel-<sup>239</sup>Pu Case study

	Prior rel. uncert. (%)		Post rel. uncert. (%)	
	multi-group	XGPT	multi-group	XGPT
$k_{\text{eff}}$	0.733	0.704	0.191	0.190
F28/F25	3.731	3.581	1.298	1.291
F37/F25	3.631	3.573	1.307	1.306
F49/F25	0.825	0.797	0.558	0.547

**Table:** Comparison of prior (input) and post (adjusted) nuclear data uncertainties estimated by the multi-group and continuous approaches for the four response functions.



# Continuous vs. multi-group: uncertainty reduction

Jezebel- $^{239}\text{Pu}$  Case study

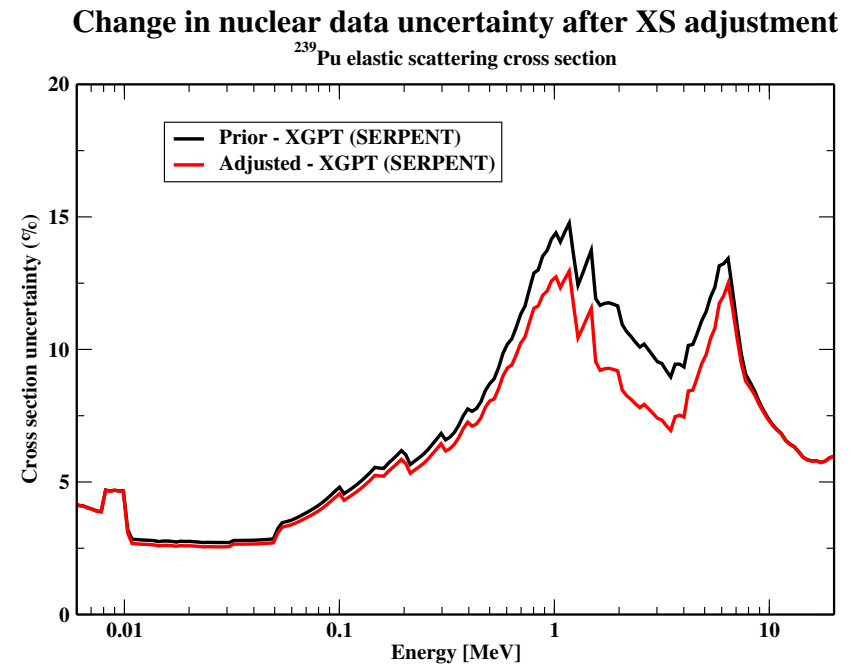
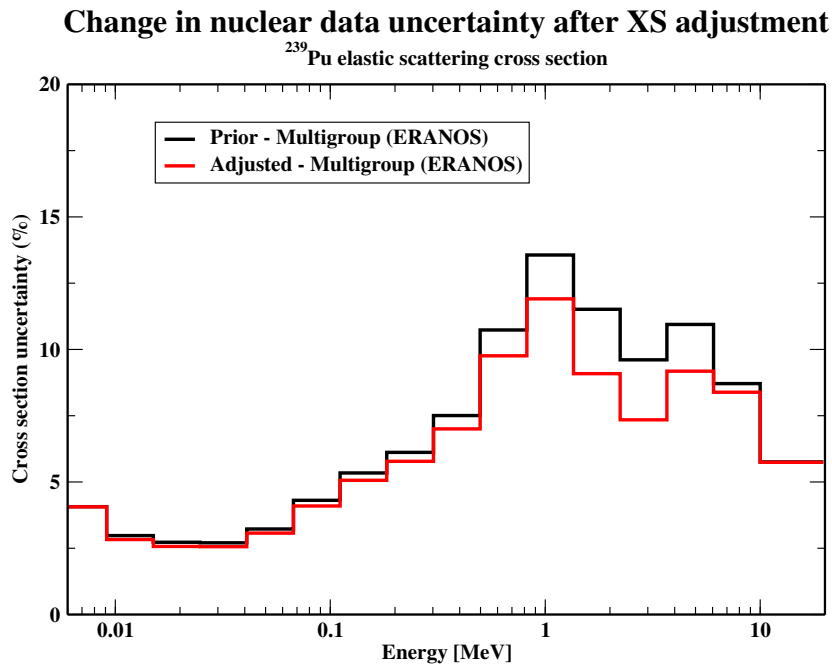


Figure:  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  elastic scattering uncertainty before and after the adjustment process. Multi-group (left) and continuous energy (right) results.



# Continuous vs. multi-group: uncertainty reduction

Jezebel- $^{239}\text{Pu}$  Case study

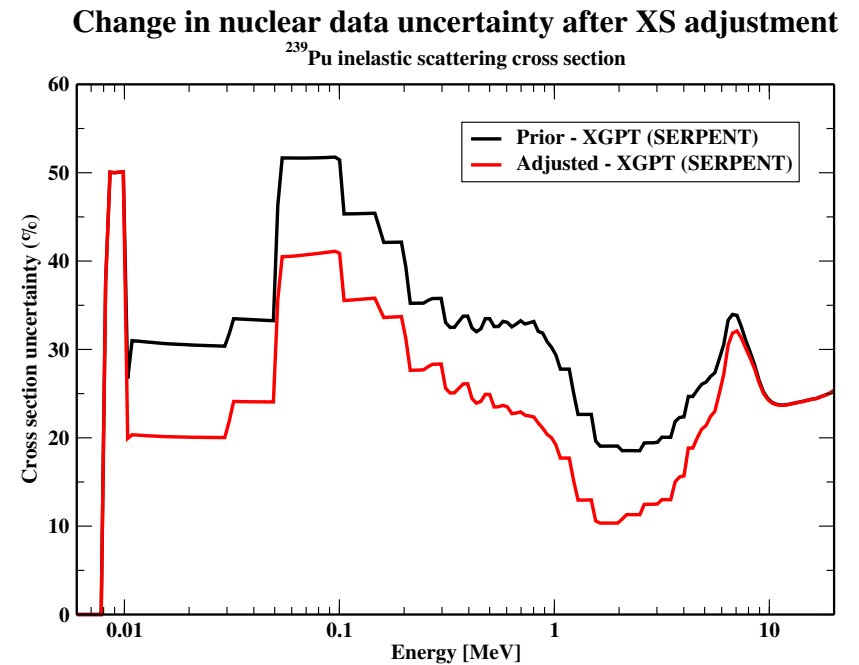
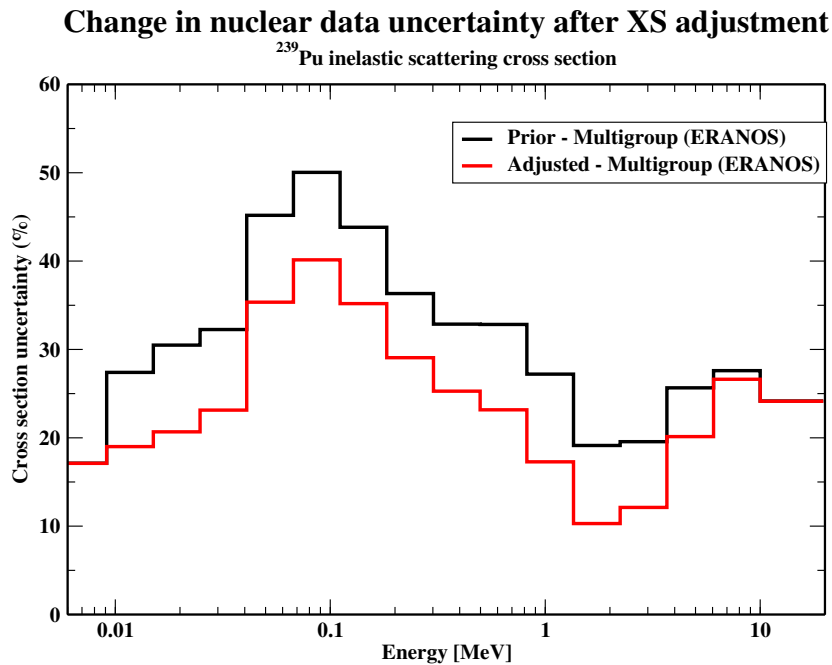


Figure:  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  inelastic scattering uncertainty before and after the adjustment process. Multi-group (left) and continuous energy (right) results.

# Continuous vs. multi-group: XS adjustment

Jezebel- $^{239}\text{Pu}$  Case study

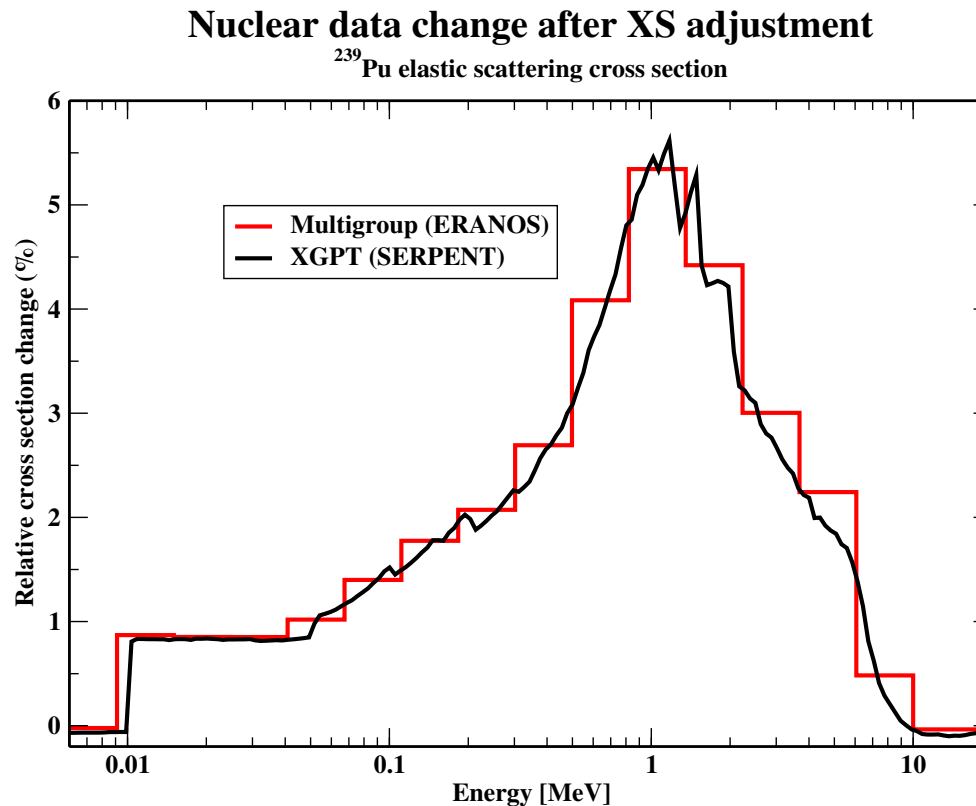


Figure:  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  elastic scattering cross section before and after the adjustment process. Multi-group (red) and continuous energy (black) results.



# Continuous vs. multi-group: XS adjustment

Jezebel- $^{239}\text{Pu}$  Case study

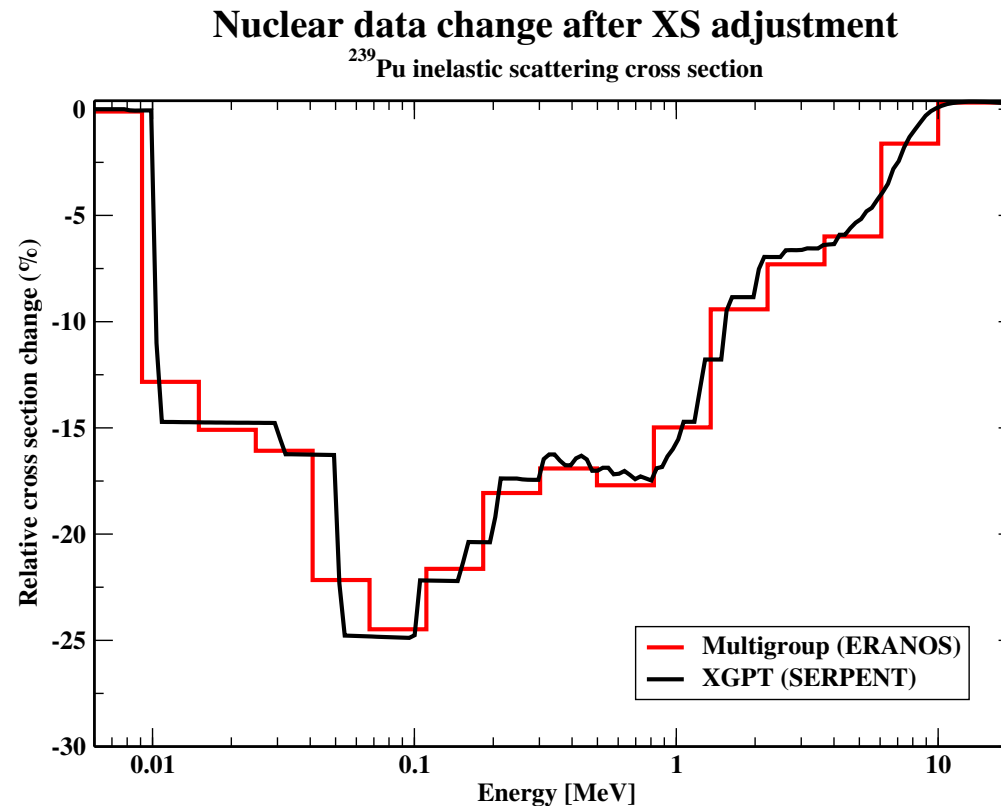


Figure:  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  inelastic scattering cross section before and after the adjustment process. Multi-group (red) and continuous energy (black) results.

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# Continuous vs. multi-group: Post C/E

Jezebel-<sup>239</sup>Pu Case study

	Prior C/E		Post C/E	
	multi-group <sup>1</sup>	XGPT	multi-group	XGPT
$k_{\text{eff}}$	0.99986	0.99976	1.00001	1.00000
F28/F25	0.977	0.979	0.995	0.995
F37/F25	0.987	0.988	0.996	0.996
F49/F25	0.975	0.975	0.985	0.984

**Table:** Comparison of prior and post C/E estimated by the multi-group and continuous approaches for the four response functions.



# xGPT is now available in Serpent 2.1.19 (minor limitations will be fixed)

Most of the continuous-energy sensitivity capabilities required for the adjustment methodology are now available to all Serpent users thanks to Ville's xGPT implementation in the official release.

Info on the sensitivity capabilities made available in Serpent:  
Ville.Valtavirta@vtt.fi

[serpent.vtt.fi/mediawiki/index.php/Sensitivity\\_Calculations](http://serpent.vtt.fi/mediawiki/index.php/Sensitivity_Calculations)

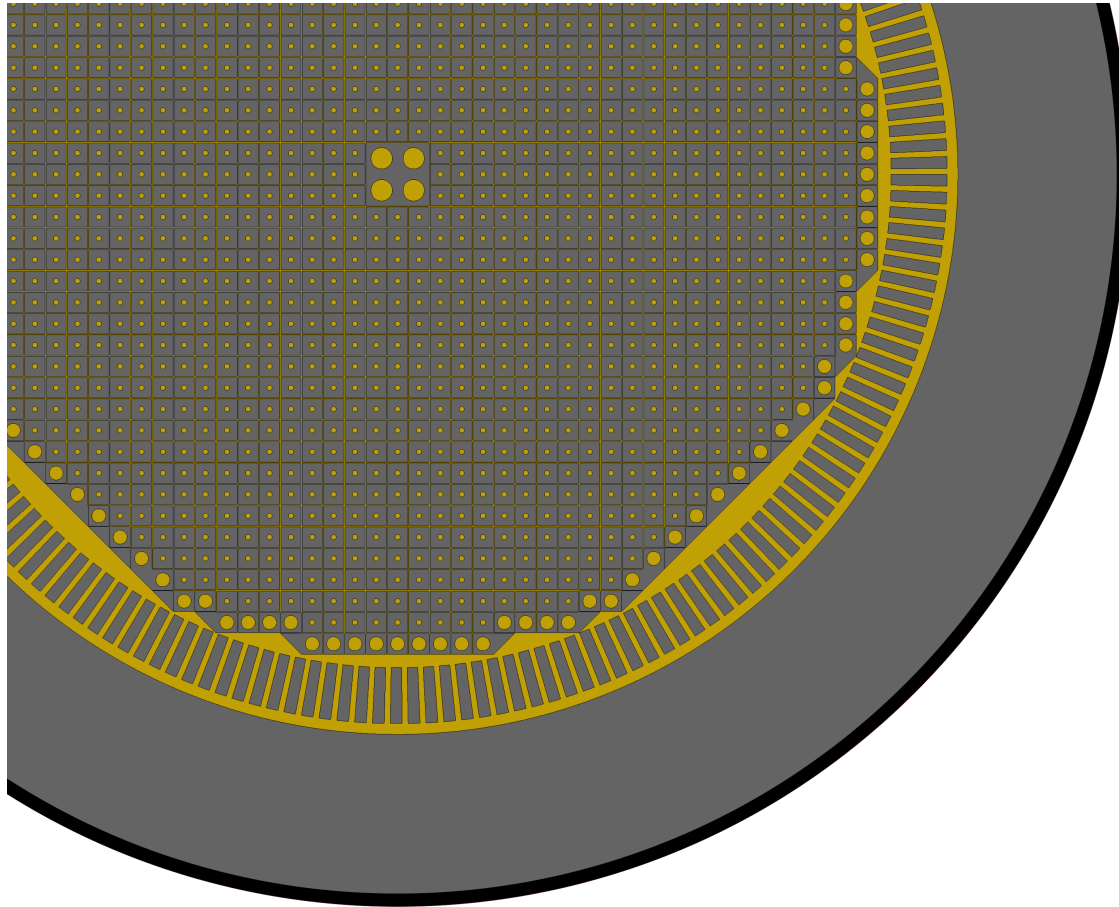
[serpent.vtt.fi/mediawiki/index.php/XGPT\\_example](http://serpent.vtt.fi/mediawiki/index.php/XGPT_example)



# Different applications of xGPT capabilities



# $^{233}\text{U}$ uncertainties in the Molten Salt Breeder Reactor

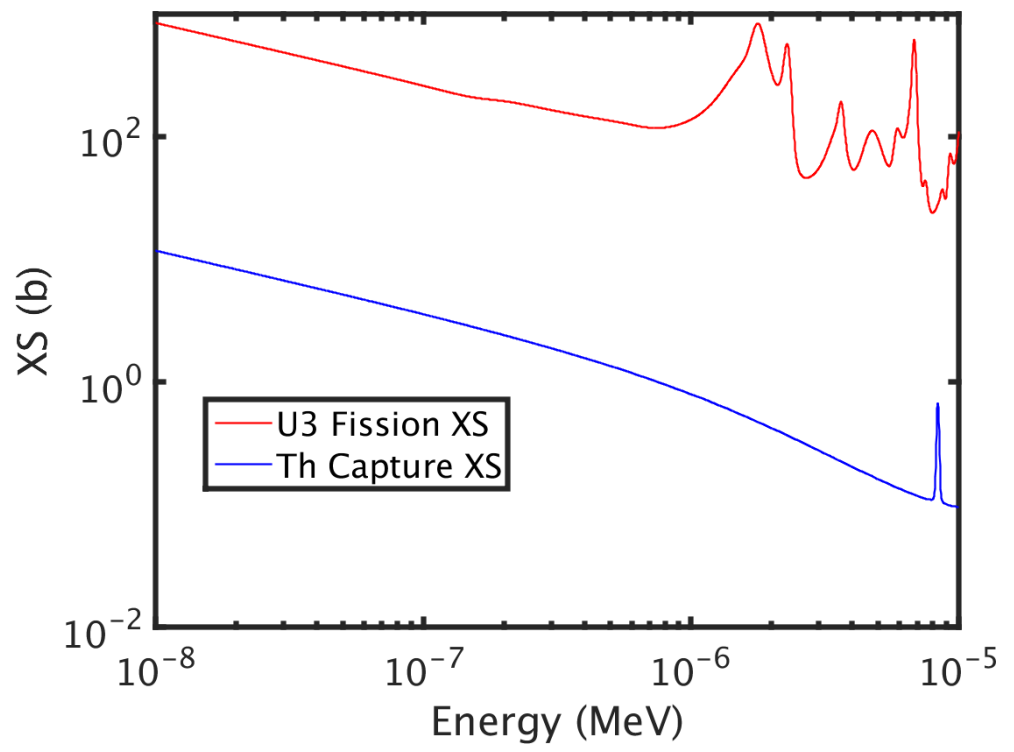
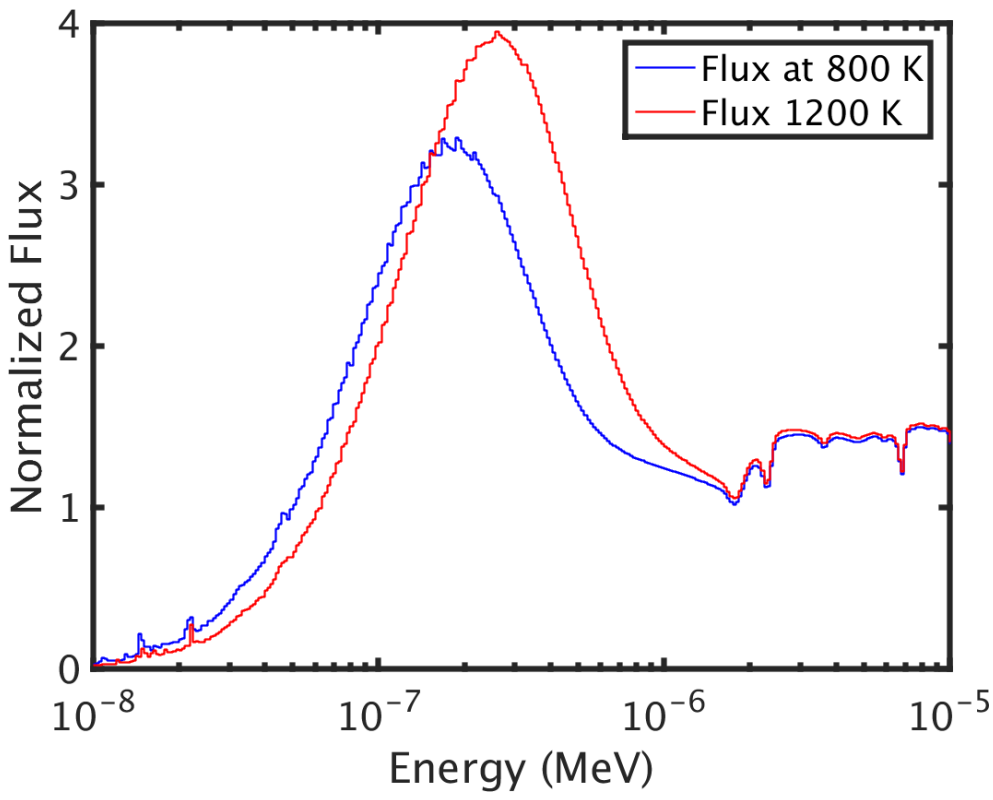


Sensitivity/uncertainty study for the  $^{233}\text{U}$  resonance parameters in the Molten Salt Breeder Reactor. JENDL-4 ENDF File *MF-32*.

UC Berkeley student Michael Martin



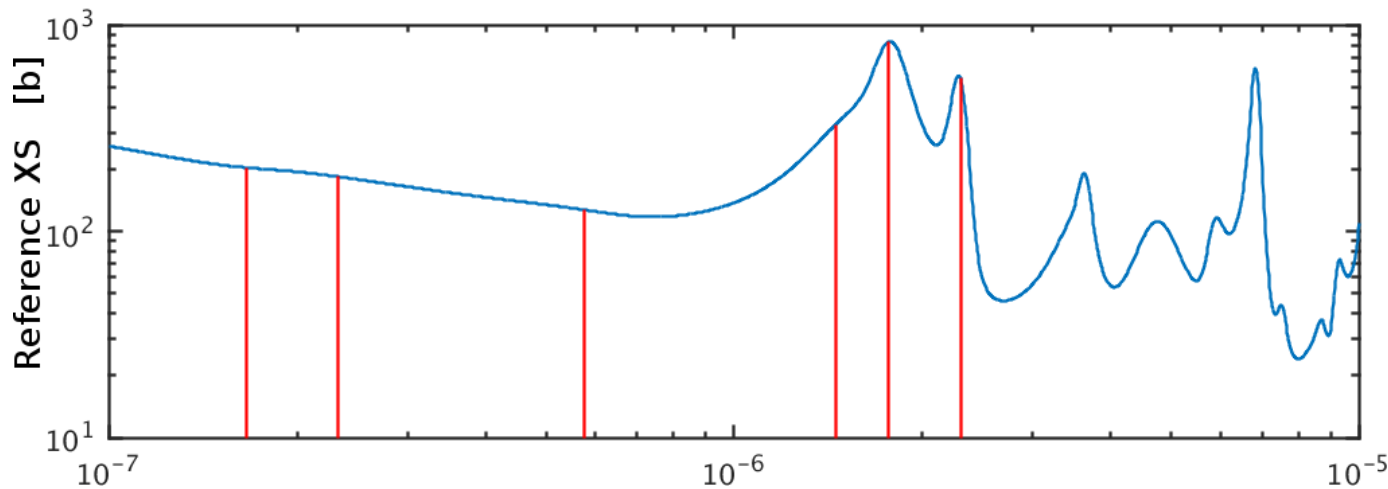
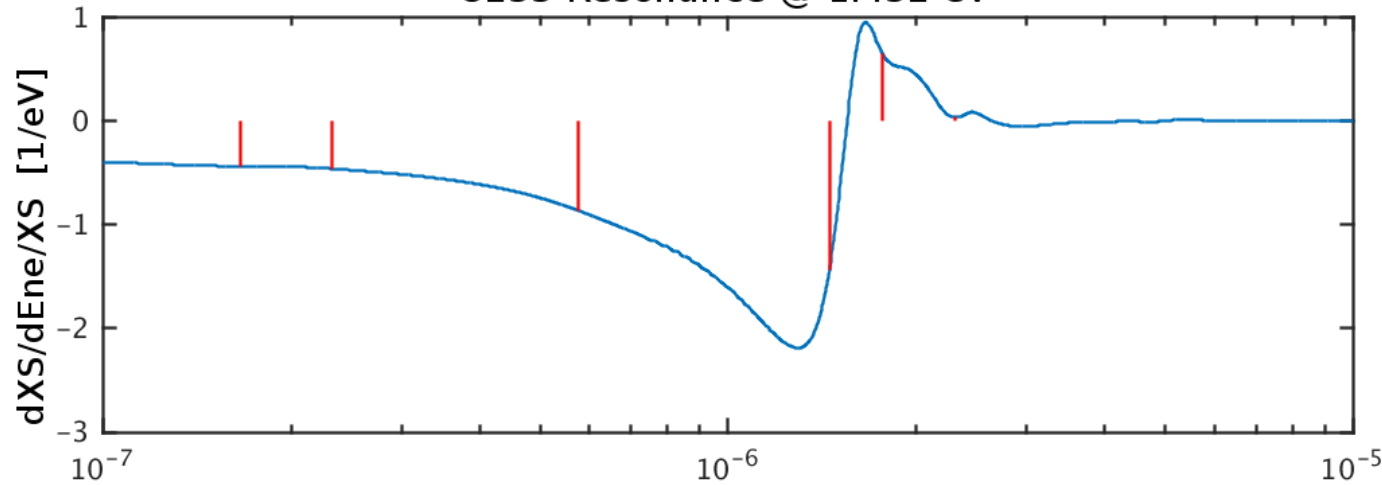
# $^{233}\text{U}$ uncertainties in the Molten Salt Breeder Reactor



# Cross sections derivatives

## $^{233}\text{U}$ Fission cross section

U233 Resonance @ 1.452 eV



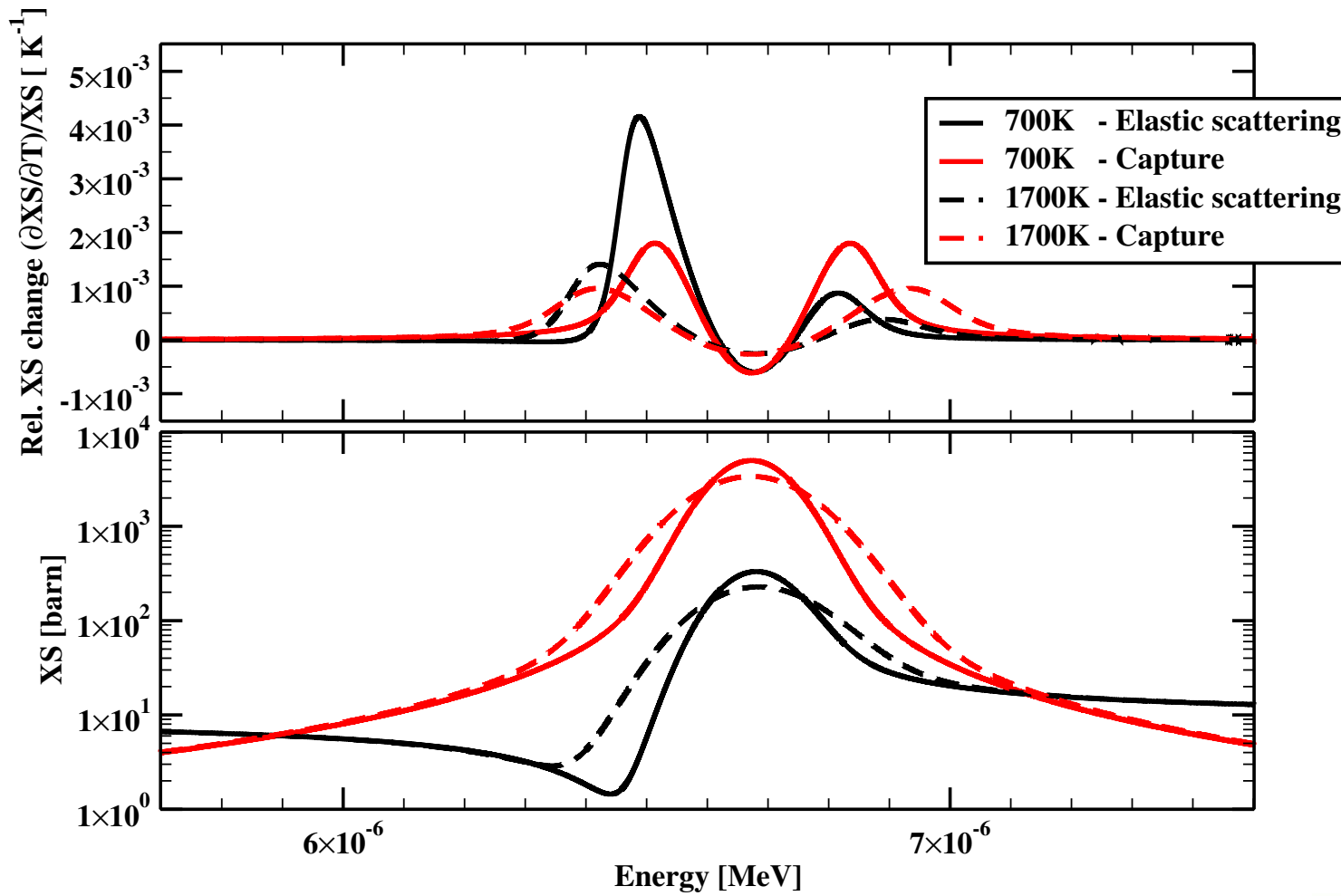
# Verification against direct perturbation

Parameter	Reference (direct perturbation)	Perturbation Theory (XGPT)	Absolute Difference
Resonance at 1.452 eV			
$S_E^{k_{eff}}$ [ $eV^{-1}$ ]	$-1.35 \cdot 10^{-1} \pm 5.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$-1.32 \cdot 10^{-1} \pm 6.1 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$3.63 \cdot 10^{-3}$
$S_{\Gamma_n}^{k_{eff}}$ [-]	$7.94 \cdot 10^{-2} \pm 1.4 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$8.09 \cdot 10^{-2} \pm 2.4 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.50 \cdot 10^{-3}$
$S_{\Gamma_\gamma}^{k_{eff}}$ [-]	$-9.40 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 1.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$-9.34 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 3.3 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$6.30 \cdot 10^{-5}$
$S_{\Gamma_{Fa}}^{k_{eff}}$ [-]	$9.80 \cdot 10^{-4} \pm 2.8 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$9.53 \cdot 10^{-4} \pm 2.6 \cdot 10^{-7}$	$2.71 \cdot 10^{-5}$

Direct perturbation verification by Michael Martin UC Berkeley

# Doppler reactivity coeff. calculation via XGPT

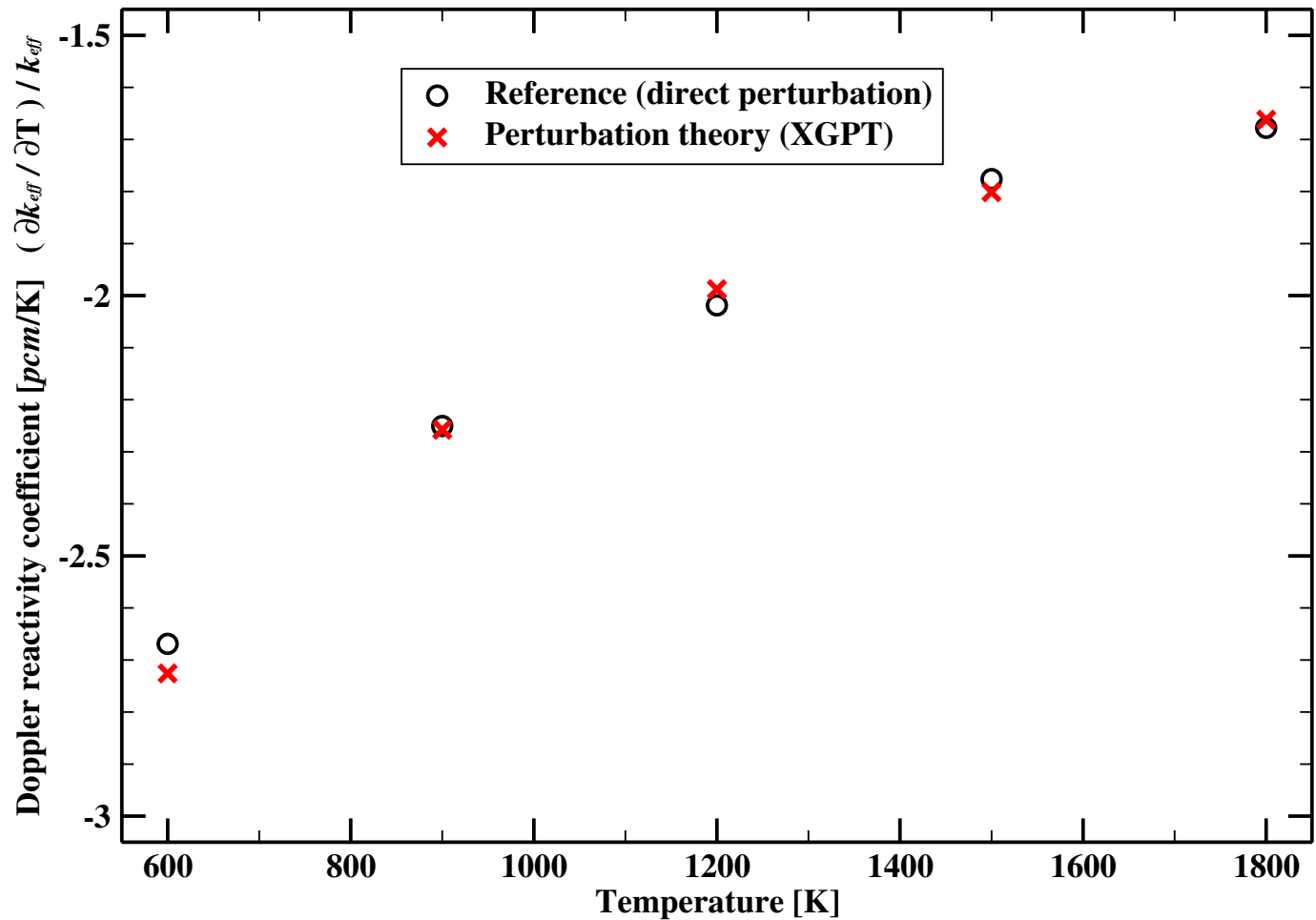
Effect of temperature on  $^{238}\text{U}$  cross sections: relative xs change



# Doppler reactivity coeff. calculation via XGPT

## Doppler reactivity coefficient -- XGPT vs direct perturbation

<sup>238</sup>U -- UAM TMI PWR pin case study



# Different applications of xGPT capabilities



Questions? Suggestions?  
Ideas?

# Projection vs. discretization

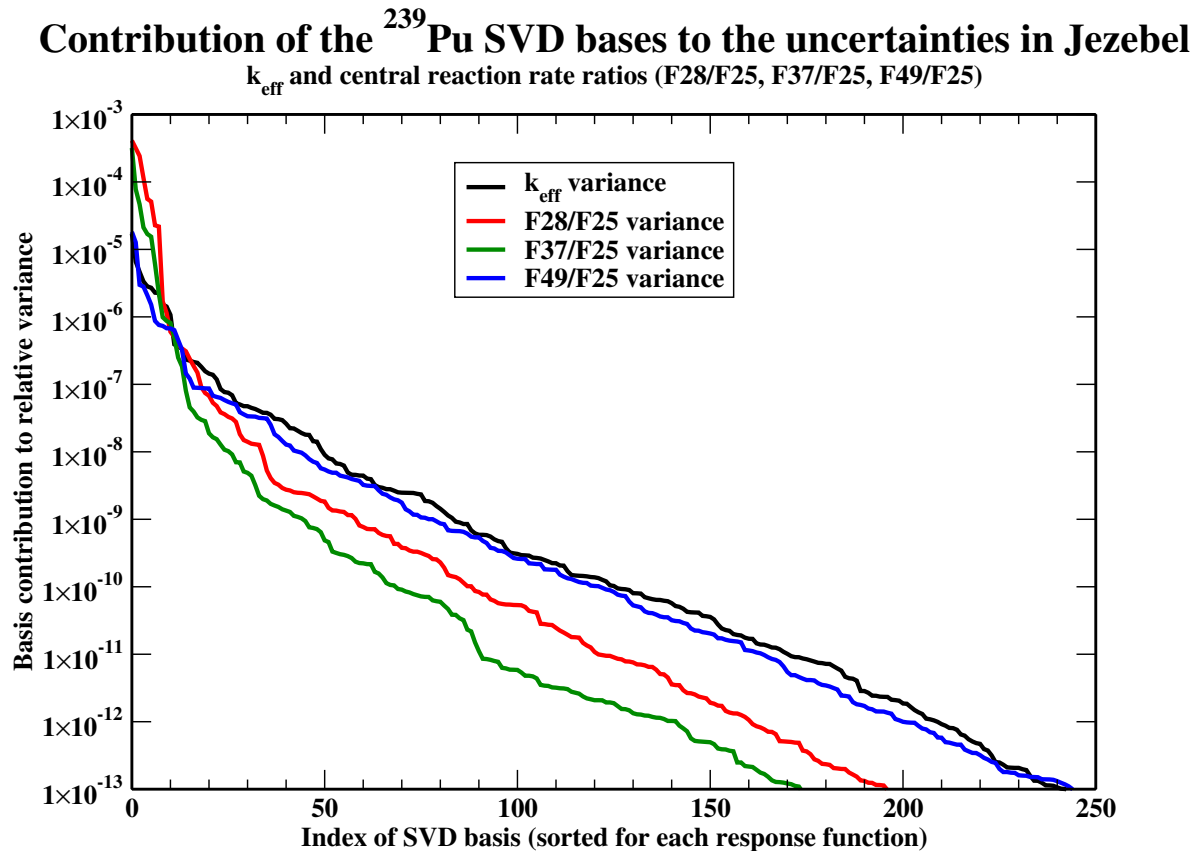


Figure: Eigenfunctions contribution to the total variances in Jezebel. Response functions:  $k_{\text{eff}}$ , F28/F25, F37/F25, F49/F25. ( $^{239}\text{Pu}$  ENDF/B-VII covariances).



# Projection vs. discretization

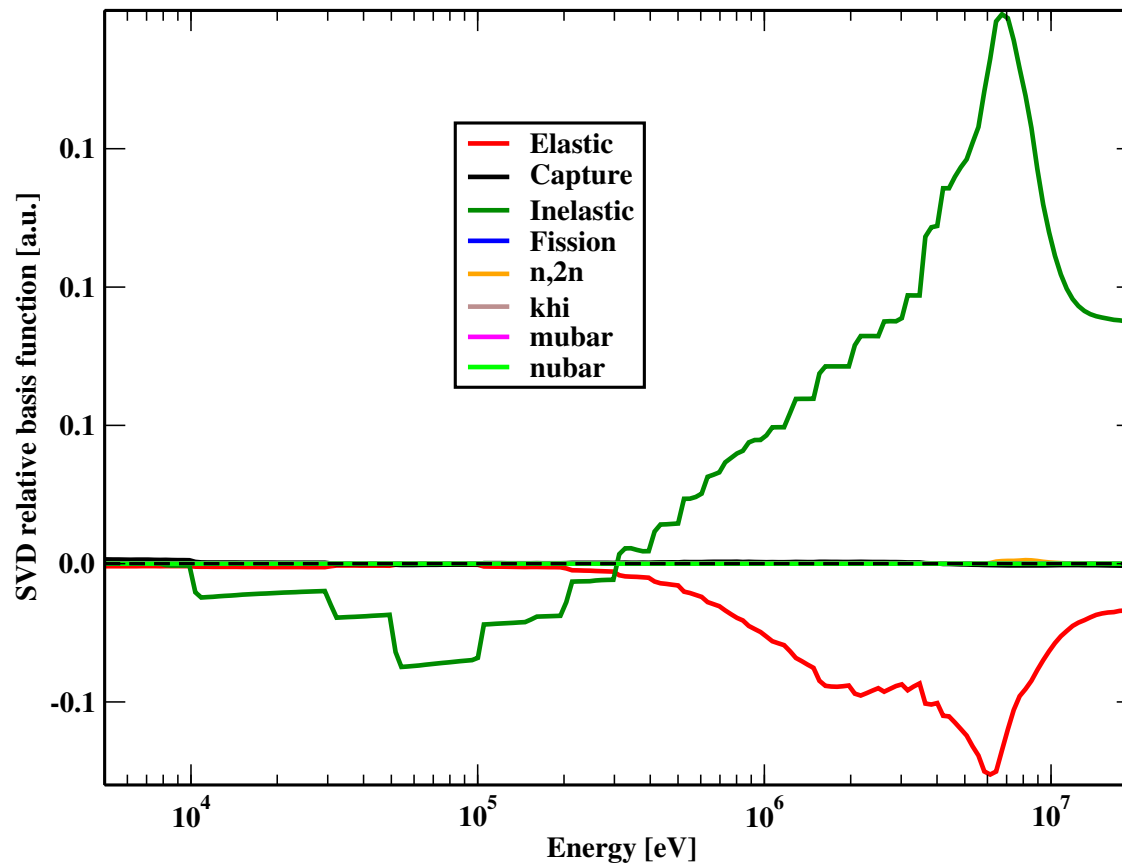
- Eigenvalue decomposition lead to exponential convergence with respect to the number of the basis functions
- Multi-group discretization lead to slow, unpredictable convergence with respect to the number of groups
- Statistical efficiency of Monte Carlo continuous sensitivity estimators doesn't depend on the number of eigenfunctions
- Statistical efficiency of Monte Carlo multi-group sensitivity estimators degrades quickly when adopting finer energy grids



# Example of basis functions from $^{239}\text{Pu}$ ENDF/B-VII

SVD of  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  covariance matrix - Top contributors to F28/F25 uncert.

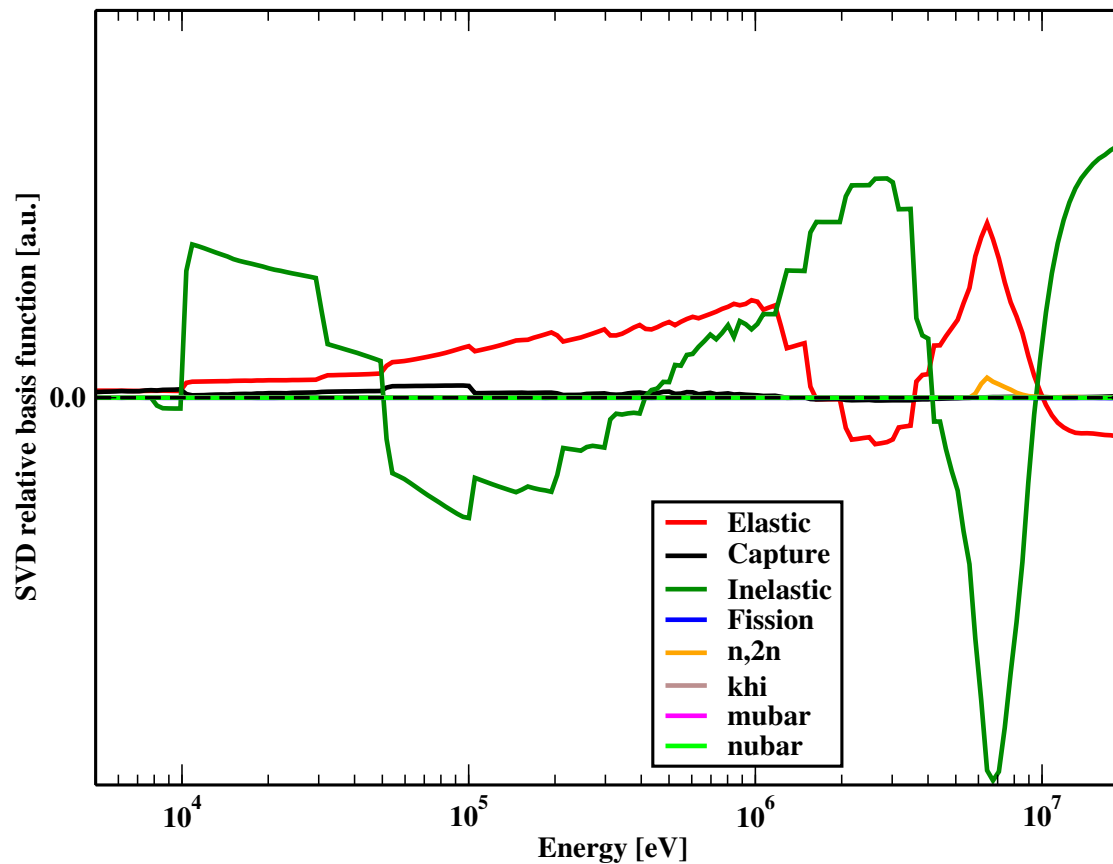
Basis #2 for F28/F25 uncertainty - 25.5% of the total variance



# Example of basis functions from $^{239}\text{Pu}$ ENDF/B-VII

SVD of  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  covariance matrix - Top contributors to  $k_{\text{eff}}$  uncertainty

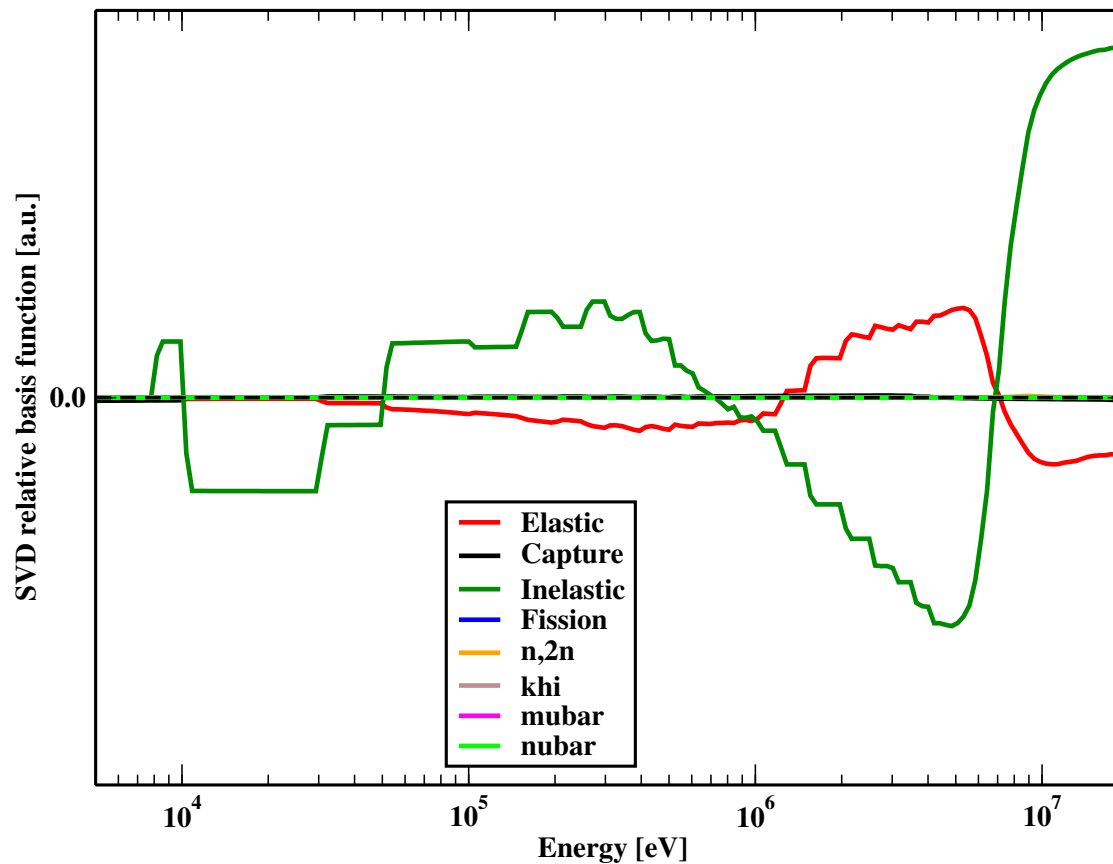
Basis #3 for  $k_{\text{eff}}$  uncert. - 9.4% of the total variance - 216 pcm (rel. std)



# Example of basis functions from $^{239}\text{Pu}$ ENDF/B-VII

SVD of  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  covariance matrix - Top contributors to F28/F25 uncert.

Basis #4 for F28/F25 uncertainty - 9.2% of the total variance



# Multi-group/GPT starting point

Multi-group sensitivity coefficients:

$$\mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^R = (S_{\Sigma_1}^R, S_{\Sigma_2}^R \cdots S_{\Sigma_N}^R) \quad (6)$$

Prior multi-group covariance matrices:

$$\mathbf{COV} [\Sigma, \Sigma] = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Var}(\Sigma_1) & \text{COV} [\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2] & \cdots & \text{COV} [\Sigma_1, \Sigma_N] \\ \text{COV} [\Sigma_2, \Sigma_1] & \text{Var}(\Sigma_2) & \cdots & \text{COV} [\Sigma_2, \Sigma_N] \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{COV} [\Sigma_N, \Sigma_1] & \text{COV} [\Sigma_N, \Sigma_2] & \cdots & \text{Var}(\Sigma_N) \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$



Eigenfunctions sensitivities:

$$\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}^R = (S_{U_1}^R, S_{U_2}^R \cdots S_{U_n}^R) \quad (8)$$

Projection of the (prior) covariance matrices:

$$\mathbf{COV} [\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{U}] = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & V_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & V_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

# Adjusted continuous energy covariance

*adjusted* **COV** [**U** , **U**] via the Generalized Least Squares Method is obtained as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \textit{adjusted} \mathbf{COV} [\mathbf{U} , \mathbf{U}] - \textit{prior} \mathbf{COV} [\mathbf{U} , \mathbf{U}] = \\ & = \mathbf{M} \mathbf{G}^T \left[ \mathbf{G} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{G}^T + \mathbf{V}_e + \mathbf{V}_m \right]^{-1} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{M} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

*adjusted* **COV** [**U** , **U**] contains the correlations among the basis functions introduced by the experiments.

$$\begin{aligned} & \textit{adjusted} \mathit{COV} [\Sigma(E) , \Sigma(E')] \simeq \\ & \simeq \begin{bmatrix} U_1(E) & \dots & U_n(E) \end{bmatrix} \textit{adjusted} \mathbf{COV} [\mathbf{U} , \mathbf{U}] \begin{bmatrix} U_1(E') \\ \vdots \\ U_n(E') \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$



# Case study: Jezebel $^{239}\text{Pu}$

## Relative experimental uncertainties

$k_{\text{eff}}$	F28/F25	F37/F25	F49/F25
0.002	0.011	0.014	0.009

## Experimental correlation matrix

	$k_{\text{eff}}$	F28/F25	F37/F25	F49/F25
$k_{\text{eff}}$	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F28/F25	0.00	1.00	0.32	0.23
F37/F25	0.00	0.32	1.00	0.23
F49/F25	0.00	0.23	0.23	1.00

**Table:** Experimental uncertainties and correlation matrix for the four considered response functions.



# Case study: Jezebel $^{239}\text{Pu}$

## Relative modeling uncertainties

$k_{\text{eff}}$	F28/F25	F37/F25	F49/F25
0.0018	0.0090	0.0030	0.0030

## Modeling correlation matrix

	$k_{\text{eff}}$	F28/F25	F37/F25	F49/F25
$k_{\text{eff}}$	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F28/F25	0.00	1.00	0.50	0.50
F37/F25	0.00	0.50	1.00	0.50
F49/F25	0.00	0.50	0.50	1.00

Table: Modeling uncertainties and correlation matrix for the four considered response functions.



# Case study: Jezebel $^{239}\text{Pu}$

	Exp.	Calc. (this work)	Calc. (WPEC-SG33)
$k_{\text{eff}}$	1.0000	0.99976	0.99986
F28/F25	0.2133	0.20871	0.20839
F37/F25	0.9835	0.97155	0.97071
F49/F25	1.4609	1.42435	1.42482

Table: Experimental and calculated values.



# Negative correlations

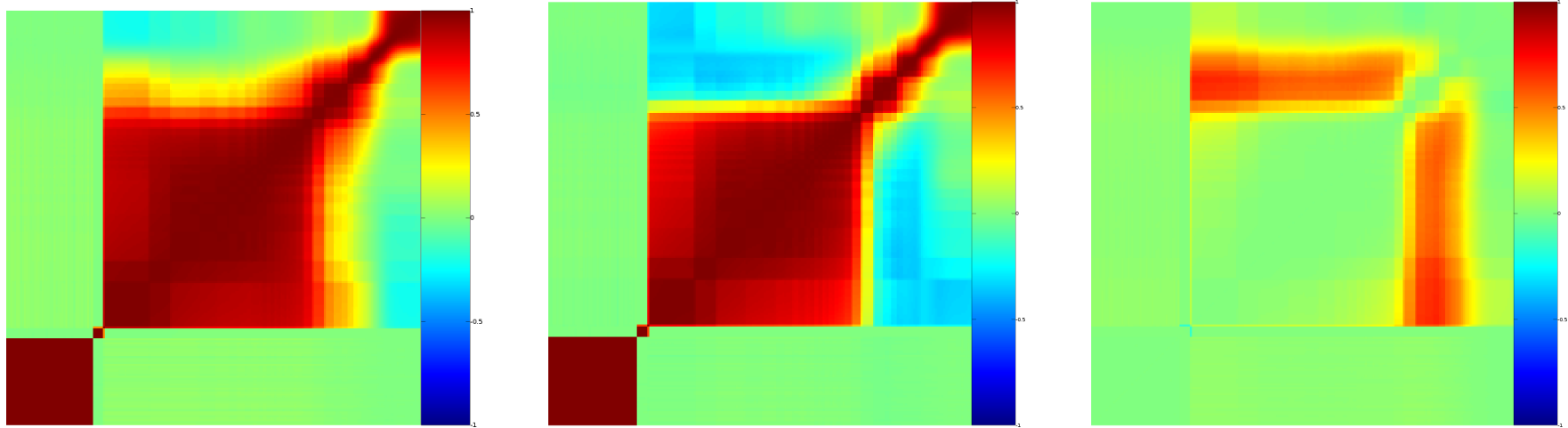


Figure:  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  inelastic scattering correlation matrix in the 1 keV – 20 MeV energy region. Before (left) and after (center) the continuous energy adjustment process, and Prior – Post difference is shown on the right.

# Conclusions

Main goal: new methodology for continuous-energy XS adjustment  
Shorten the distance between evaluators and Monte Carlo users (?)  
Enable the adoption of integral experiments in a simple, effective and timely way ( $^{35}\text{Cl} (n, p)$ ,  $^{233}\text{U} (n, \gamma)$ ... )



# Conclusions

Main goal: new methodology for continuous-energy XS adjustment

Shorten the distance between evaluators and Monte Carlo users (?)

Enable the adoption of integral experiments in a simple, effective and timely way ( $^{35}\text{Cl} (n, p)$ ,  $^{233}\text{U} (n, \gamma)$ ... )

First tests are promising... we need to move to broader case studies. **Anyone wants to help/contribute???**

In the resonance region, resonance parameters XS sensitivities (after MF-32 decompositions) and scattering radii are the basis functions for the continuous adjustment



# Lessons learned (random thoughts) and ongoing works

- Please, leave MF-32 in the ENDF files
- In the future, storing MF-33 in the form of eigenvectors/eigenvalues might save, memory, CPU, and headaches
- Now working on secondaries distribution adjustment... Legendre or double differential?
- Next step: URR adjustment (this might take some time!)

